

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,228,398,127,636.98. We've added \$8,601,521,078,723.90 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8.6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING LOUISE SMITH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a resourceful and ambitious mother, Mrs. Louise Smith. Mrs. Smith has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to live a productive life.

Louise Smith was born on February 21, 1925 in Laurel, Mississippi.

Mrs. Smith married Samuel Smith on March 10, 1946 and together they had 11 children, 5 boys and 6 girls. They moved to Yazoo City, Mississippi in the 1950s. When the youngest child was enrolled in kindergarten, Mrs. Smith enrolled in beauty school and later received her license to become a hairstylist. She and her good friend, Dorothy Casey, co-owned a beauty salon in downtown Yazoo City which opened in early 1970s and remained open for over 30 years. When you stopped by to get your hair done, you not only received a great hair styling, but you also got many words of wisdom with a little gospel to lift up your spirits until the next time you came.

Mrs. Smith was once a member of Chapel Hill Baptist Church on Brickyard Hill in Yazoo City with her husband and children. There she and several other women met and formed a gospel group known as the Gospel Carolettes. Her husband sang with them as well. The Gospel Carolettes not only sang in church but at various Christian events spreading the news of the gospel. They also sang on the radio station WAZF each Sunday morning.

Mrs. Smith left Chapel Hill Baptist Church with her husband and children to become a member of New Zion Baptist Church where her son, Rev. Willie E. Smith, is the pastor. There she not only served as a Mother of the church, but also works with the Mission women. Mother Smith taught Sunday School and sang in the choir at New Zion.

Mrs. Smith has been a mother and/or grandmother figure to many in the church and in her neighborhood; always welcoming others into her home, which has always displayed an array of beautiful flowers in the yard and many green plants indoors for comfort, decoration and fresh air. Louise enjoys gardening and preparing dinner with vegetables from her garden on Sundays for her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and any other visitors from the community.

Mrs. Smith has pushed to be a role model not only for her children and grandchildren, but to all in her community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Louise Smith for her dedication for change and serving her community.

HONORING PATRICIA DERIAN,
CHAMPION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Patricia Derian, former State Department human rights chief, who, as the Washington Post reported, "helped save thousands of lives by giving humanitarian concerns greater weight in U.S. foreign policy." Patt, who grew up in Virginia and first gained a national reputation as a fighter for civil rights in Mississippi, died on May 20 at the home she and her husband, Hodding Carter III, shared in Chapel Hill, NC.

Patt graduated from the University of Virginia nursing school in 1952 and moved with her then-husband to Jackson, Mississippi. There she volunteered for Head Start, fought to integrate public schools, and participated in the 1968 challenge to the state's all-white Democratic National Convention delegation. She also served as president of the Southern Regional Council and on the executive committee of the American Civil Liberties Union.

In 1976, Patt took a leadership role in Jimmy Carter's presidential campaign. President Carter appointed her State Department coordinator for human rights and humanitarian affairs, a position Congress upgraded to Assistant Secretary. "If you want a magnolia to decorate foreign policy," she told future Secretary of State Warren Christopher, "I'm the wrong person. I expect to get things done."

Patt Derian proved as good as her word, ruffling numerous feathers along the way. She persuaded the President to exert influence over international lending institutions by opposing loans to Argentina, Ethiopia, Laos, Uruguay, and other human rights violators. She helped engineer the release of thousands of political prisoners in Indonesia, Bangladesh and Pakistan. Her reports to Congress shed light on previously ignored subjects such as labor practices, women's rights, and female genital mutilation. Jacobo Timerman, an Argentine journalist imprisoned and tortured over many years, credited Ms. Derian with helping engineer his release and saving "thousands and thousands of lives all over the world."

In 1978, Patt married Hodding Carter, a well-known Mississippi journalist who was then Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs. They relocated to Chapel Hill in 2005, where my wife Lisa and I came to treasure their friendship and their continued political and civic leadership, locally and nationally. Hodding was Patt's loving caretaker in her years of declining health and continues in multiple teaching and other leadership roles at the University of North Carolina.

Because of Patt Derian's "determination and effective advocacy," President Carter said upon her death, "countless human rights and democracy activists survived that period, going on to plant the seeds of freedom in Latin

America, Asia, and beyond." She was a great humanitarian who was not afraid to challenge the constraints generally placed on diplomacy and foreign policy. As a result, we now have a broader, morally-grounded view of our country's interests and of what we stand for in the world. That is a legacy of major importance: may we rededicate ourselves to it as we remember Patt Derian with gratitude and affection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 270, I am not recorded.

Had I been present, I would have voted aye.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. KAREN
RUE'S RETIREMENT**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Karen Rue, Superintendent of Schools at Northwest ISD. Dr. Rue is retiring from this leadership position after over ten years of exemplary public service to its students, faculty and staff.

During her term as superintendent, Dr. Rue skillfully met the challenges of a rapidly growing school district. Dr. Rue guided NISD's transformation from an educational entity serving 8,700 students in a largely rural area to a more suburban district with an expanded enrollment of more than 21,000. She successfully shepherded the passage of three bond elections, with the overwhelming support of the community, to meet this dynamic growth. During this period, academic performance was increased to ensure that graduates would be equipped for success in higher education and prepared to compete in a global workforce. During Dr. Rue's tenure, the district saw the opening of two new high schools, Byron Nelson, and V.R. Eaton. Additionally, she was instrumental in the implementation of community-based accountability, the expansion of specialized NISD academies and the development of the Outdoor Learning Center.

Dr. Rue has been nationally recognized as a leading proponent of the importance of a digital learning environment to equip all students to be "future ready." She was selected to participate in the Connected Superintendents Summit at the White House, was named one of the nation's Top 50 Innovators in Education by the Center for Digital Education and was chosen as a finalist in the eSchool News Tech-Savvy Superintendent Awards program. In addition, she was elected by her peers to serve as president of the Texas Association of School Administrators and was named Region XI Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Rue is also a dedicated community leader, having served as President of the Northwest Communities Partnership and as a director of the 35W Coalition.

Cumulatively, Dr. Rue has dedicated 37 years to improving the quality of American